

AGENDA ITEM: Franklin Phonetic Primary School, Inc. - Request for a Good Cause Extension

Issue

Franklin Phonetic Primary School, Inc. is in the process of refinancing the Franklin Phonetic Primary School, Prescott campus, for the additional funding required for site renovations for the new Sunnyslope campus. This process will take additional time and will not be completed for a 2013-2014 school year opening. Franklin Phonetic Primary School, Inc. is requesting a Good Cause Extension to the signing and execution of the charter contract to begin providing services for the 2014-2015 school year.

Policy Statement for a Good Cause Extension to the Charter Contract

Background

Franklin Phonetic Primary School, Inc. was granted a charter on July 9, 2012 to serve grades K-5 through the Replication Application process for the replication of Franklin Phonetic Primary School, Inc. The application package included a start date of 2013-14 school year. As part of the replication application package, the applicant agrees and signs a statement acknowledging that the approved applicant must execute the charter contract within twelve (12) months of the date of approval. As a condition to signing the charter contract, the approved applicant must provide proof of a secured facility.

On June 14, 2013, Board staff received a letter from Ms. Cindy Franklin, charter representative, with a request for a Good Cause Extension. The letter stated that Franklin Phonetic Primary School, Inc. is refinancing the Franklin Phonetic Primary School, Prescott campus, in order to reduce mortgage payments and provide extra funds to make required site renovations for the Franklin Phonetic Primary School - Sunnyslope campus. This process will take additional time and will not be completed for a 2013-2014 school year opening. Franklin Phonetic Primary School, Inc. is requesting a Good Cause Extension to the signing and execution of the charter contract to begin providing services for the 2014-15 school year. The letter states that a facility location was determined and an engineer performed a survey on the property, drawing up plans for the placement of modular classrooms. The school will be renting space from North Village Baptist Church at 1010 E. Alice Avenue.

Board Options:

Option 1: The Board may approve the Good Cause Extension. Staff recommends the following language for consideration: I move, based on the information contained in the Board materials and presented today, that the Board approve the Good Cause Extension to the signing and execution of the charter contract for Franklin Phonetic Primary School, Inc. such that the contract is executed in time to begin providing instruction to students in the 2014-2015 school year. Further that, as a condition of the Board's approval, Franklin Phonetic Primary School, Inc. must, at the time of its signing and execution of a charter contract for operation beginning in the 2014-2015 school year, meet the Board's eligibility requirements for charter replication. Franklin Phonetic Primary School, Inc. must also, as a condition of today's approval, submit any and all documentation necessary to bring its replication application package current with policy, rule, state or federal law at least 90 days prior to the signing of the contract. If Franklin Phonetic Primary School, Inc. fails to meet the Board's eligibility requirements for charter replication or fails to timely submit the required documentation, the matter must be brought back to the Board prior to the execution of a charter contract.

Option 2: The Board may deny the request for a Good Cause Extension. The following language is provided for consideration: I move, based on the information contained in the Board materials and presented today, that the Board deny the request for a Good Cause Extension to the signing and execution of the charter contract for Franklin Phonetic Primary School, Inc. on the basis that the Board's previous approval was based on the applicant's meeting the Board's eligibility criteria at the time of consideration and the applicant's representation that it would begin providing instruction to students in the 2013-2014 school year.